Milwaukee Idea Award winners named

The Milwaukee Public School System’s Congress Extended Year-Round School and UW-Milwaukee’s Center for Intelligent Maintenance Systems were recently named winners of The 2002 Milwaukee Idea Award.

The award recognizes achievement in sustained community-university partnership efforts, creative approaches to partnership building and contributions to the vitality of the community. It is presented annually by the UWM Alumni Association and its Emeritus Board of Trustees.

“We are once again very pleased to be making these awards to such outstanding partnerships,” said Barbara Flint, Director of the UWM Alumni Association. Their work exemplifies the spirit and the goals of The Milwaukee Idea.”

The Congress School – UWM partnership brings UWM School of Education students to the school for field experiences, student teaching and other on-site learning opportunities. It is led by Congress Principal Mary Beth Minkley.

Milwaukee Idea results highlighted in Community Report

The Milwaukee Idea recently published its first annual Report to the Community detailing the accomplishments of 15 Milwaukee Idea initiatives which address challenges in education, economic development and community and environmental health.

The Milwaukee Idea is UWM’s groundbreaking effort to bring the resources and proven expertise of the state’s only urban research university to partnerships with the people of greater Milwaukee and Wisconsin.

“I welcome this opportunity to share the achievements of the Milwaukee Idea and to demonstrate that UWM is steadfast in its commitment to making The Milwaukee Idea a force for improving people’s lives,” said UWM Chancellor Nancy Zimpher. “As this Report to the Community so clearly shows, The Milwaukee Idea is now an array of exciting partnerships and unprecedented collaborative efforts. Through the Milwaukee Idea we are helping to educate our urban youth, protect our environment and our health, create and sustain prosperity in our neighborhoods and make high tech industry a reality throughout the state.”

A sampling of Milwaukee Idea results include:

Providing training to over 100 middle school teachers involved in a program which prepares students in urban middle schools to attend college (Initiative: Partnerships for Education).

Assisting in the development and implementation of curriculum for the Milwaukee Public Schools’ new Lynde Harry Bradley School of Technology and Trade (Initiative: Partnerships for Education).

Graduating more than 60 students from a program which offers emerging entrepreneurs a chance to gain critical business skills, develop business plans and attract financing (Initiative: Consortium for Economic Opportunity).

Creating a “Quick Response Team” of faculty, students and staff to efficiently respond to community groups seeking help with design issues. The team has worked on more than 25 such requests, which include providing streetscapes,
Fourth Street Forum bringing lively dialogue to city

Milwaukee’s Turner Hall is once again filled with the voices of citizens debating the issues of the day, thanks to the 4th Street Forum, a new series of topical panel discussions. The Forum is reviving a tradition that began well over 100 years ago when the now historic building was a well-known gathering place for civic-minded Milwaukeeans.

Sponsored by the Milwaukee Turners, The Milwaukee Idea office and UWM’s Center for Urban Initiatives and Research, the aim of the free programs is to promote a healthy democracy through open and substantive public discussion.

“Our goal is to explore the chosen topic thoroughly, allowing the community to access diverse sources of information and points of view in order to make informed decisions in their civic lives,” said Jullily Kohler, chair of the Forum’s organizing committee.

Forums cover a wide range of social, economic, political and cultural topics. The Fall series, entitled “Election 2002: Shaping Wisconsin’s Future,” concludes November 7 with a post-election wrap-up featuring Eugene Kane, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel columnist; Milwaukee County Judge Fredrick Kessler; Thomas Holbrook, Professor of Political Science, UWM; and John Nichols, Associate Editor, Capital Times and Washington correspondent for The Nation.

The Forum’s tentative winter schedule includes a four-week series on Wisconsin’s energy policy that will explore the environmental and economic aspects of meeting our energy needs in the decade to come. A six-week series on criminal justice issues will focus on the juvenile, state and federal criminal justice systems and their role in our society. Programs are taped by Channel 10 and WUWM-FM (89.7) and broadcast at a later date.

The Forum is extending a special invitation to students and educators to join in the dialogue. “We welcome the participation of UWM students and faculty in these important and timely discussions,” said Stephen Percy, Chancellor’s Deputy for The Milwaukee Idea. “We’re thrilled to be playing a role in facilitating critical civic discourse and in bringing new life to Turner Hall.”

All sessions are held on Thursdays from 12-1:30 p.m. at Turner Hall, 1034 N. 4th Street. Admission is free; lunch may be purchased separately. For more on the 4th Street Forum, check the web www.milwaukeeturners.org or call 414-272-2884.

Milwaukee Idea subject of new book


The book traces the development of The Milwaukee Idea from its beginnings in 1999 and explores UWM’s efforts to become a university engaged with its community.

“The book helped us reflect on what we’ve learned from The Milwaukee Idea,” said Percy. “Things like the importance of creating an inclusive process and being accountable to the public to produce results. But A Time for Boldness is not so much a blueprint for how to ‘do engagement’ as it is a celebration of the hundreds of women and men who envisioned the possibilities of The Milwaukee Idea and continue to make change happen.”

“A Time for Boldness” is available at the UWM Bookstore, the Golda Meir Library and from the publisher at www.ankerpub.com.
Campus of the Future brings new views to UWM

UWM may be nearing its half-century mark, but students and faculty in the School of Architecture and Urban Planing aren’t looking back. Instead, they’re imagining how UWM might evolve over next 50 years or so in a project called “Campus of the Future.”

Incorporating visions and designs for what the campus might become as well as innovative projects that have already been realized, the Campus of the Future focuses on accommodating significant growth in student enrollment and on the university’s expanding role in the community.

“This is important work not just for UWM, but for other campuses facing the challenges that come with being a land-locked urban university where space is at a premium,” said Susan Weistrop, Administrative Coordinator of Campus Design Solutions. Campus Design Solutions is a Milwaukee Idea initiative that offers technical assistance, design and planning services to the campus and the community.

UWM professor Mark Keane and architect Linda Keane envision UWM in the year 2064 as “community, communicator and cultural collective.” In their view, mass transit and walking replace cars, the design of the campus lends itself to lively public gatherings and a student body of 50,000 learns in the community as well as in the classroom.

In another dream of what might be, students in a graduate architecture course called XYZ Studio propose bridging the physical gap between the east and west sides of the Milwaukee River and what they view as a social and cultural gap between the university and the community. Among their suggestions are providing on and off campus research facilities, linking UWM to a new transit system and pedestrian corridor and creating more ties between the campus and private technology organizations.

If you’d like to know more about the Campus of the Future project or view more designs, check the Campus Design Solutions website at www.uwm.edu/MilwaukeeIdea/CDS or E-mail Susan Weistrop, susatrop@uwm.edu.

continued from page 1

design proposals and redevelopment strategies (Initiative: Campus Design Solutions).

Designing a range of educational programs, from certificates to graduate studies, to help nonprofit leaders keep nonprofit organizations strong. (Initiative: Nonprofit Management Education).

Increasing study abroad by more than 90 percent in the past two years, with 450 students in international study this year alone. (Initiative: Global Passport).

Surveying drinking and drug use on campus and educating students and the community about its effects. (Initiative: Healthy Choices).

Offering an undergraduate course on healthy living choices to help decrease alcohol and drug use on campus (Initiative: Healthy Choices).

Launching the Center for Intelligent Maintenance Systems which focuses on web-based techniques that allow machines and systems to monitor their own performance and predict breakdowns before they occur.

Creating a Cultures and Communities certificate program with a focus on multi-cultural understanding, interdisciplinary study and community-based learning.

“We are proud of these accomplishments and the many others chronicled in the pages of this Report to the Community, “ said Stephen Percy, Chancellor’s Deputy for The Milwaukee Idea. “We are proud too of the large number of individuals and organizations which have partnered with UWM to help make The Milwaukee Idea a reality.”

New portal a window to the world for nonprofits

Milwaukee area nonprofit organizations can now easily access a wider array of resources than ever before, thanks to the Nonprofit Portal, an Internet based source of information about the nonprofit sector.

The Portal, which has it roots in the Milwaukee Idea’s nonprofit management education initiative, is a one-stop-shop for upcoming nonprofit events, conferences and annual meetings in the metro area. Among its expanded offerings are newsworthy events, reports and other publications of interest to local nonprofits. The Portal’s developers are also adding links on certain “hot” topic areas, such as social entrepreneurship.

A project of the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management at UWM, the Portal was created and is advised by coalition of Milwaukee area nonprofit providers. Its mission is to strengthen nonprofit support through increased communication, collaboration and education.

“As a representative of the funding community, I feel the Portal is vital to the nonprofit sector, not only in its ease of use, but because it makes information so readily available,” said Deborah Fugenschuh, president of the Donors Forum of Wisconsin. “It shows how dynamic and highly professional the nonprofit sector is.”

For more information, visit the site at www.nonprofitmilwaukee.org, or contact site manager Barbara Duffy, Senior Outreach Specialist with UWM’s Center for Urban Initiatives and Research, 414-229-2924, bduffy@uwm.edu.